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YAKIMA COUNTY

Public Services

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VERN M. REDIFER, P.E. - Director

August 19, 2010

Mr. Gary Pruitt, Executive Director
Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency
329 North 1st Street
Yakima, WA 98901

Dear Mr. Pruitt:

Yakima County Public Services – Solid Waste Division (County) is providing this letter pursuant to our meeting on August 17, 2010 and telephone discussion on August 18, 2010 regarding the applicability of New Source Review (NSR) permitting action for the perimeter landfill gas migration system at the Terrace Heights Landfill (Landfill).

The County submitted a NSR application for the perimeter landfill gas migration control system prior to its installation in 2005. The County is required by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and Yakima County Health District to operate the perimeter migration control system under a constant vacuum for the purpose of protecting human health and well-being. The Landfill has experienced subsurface migration of landfill gas on the southern boundary, and the perimeter migration control system is required to pull a vacuum on the soil in that area to mitigate the problem. Due to the nature of a soil vapor extraction system, the amount of landfill gas in the collected vapor is not currently sufficient to support operation of the flare.

Subsequent to the construction of the system and the submittal of the NSR application, the County has further investigated the NSR regulations and maintains an opinion that NSR permitting is not applicable to the perimeter landfill gas migration control system. The following paragraph outlines the County's reasons for this opinion.

Washington Administrative Code Title 173 Chapter 400 Section 110 (WAC 173-400-110) outlines the NSR requirements and applicability. Specifically, WAC 173-400-110 (5) outlines exemptions to NSR permitting based on emissions. WAC 173-400-110 (5) (a) (ii) states the following:

> "A modification to an existing emissions unit that increases the unit's actual emissions by less than each of the threshold levels listed in the table contained in (d) of this subsection is exempt from new source review provided that the conditions of (b) of this subsection are met."

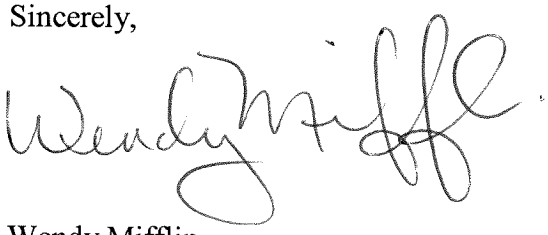
Yakima County ensures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the provision of benefits and services resulting from its federally assisted programs and activities. For questions regarding Yakima County's Title VI Program, you may contact the Title VI Coordinator at 509-574-2300.

If this letter pertains to a meeting and you need special accommodations, please call us at 509-574-2300 by 10:00 a.m. three days prior to the meeting. For TDD users, please use the State's toll free relay service 1-800-833-6388 and ask the operator to dial 509-574-2300.

The County is hereby stating that the operation of the perimeter landfill gas migration control system as an active soil vapor extraction system (as described in the original NSR application submittal) does not increase the Landfill unit's actual emissions. Specifically, the original "unit" consists of the waste mass within the Landfill and the landfill gas that is generated by that waste mass. The active withdrawal of the landfill gas/ambient air mixture from the soil near the southern boundary of the landfill and the routing of that mixture through a discharge pipe does not increase the emissions from the landfill unit because this operation does not increase the Landfill's waste mass generation of landfill gas. The production of landfill gas by a waste mass is governed by factors such as age of waste, moisture content, organic content of the waste, and other factors that determine the availability of nutrients, moisture and optimal conditions for the anaerobic microorganisms that generate landfill gas. Since the generation of landfill gas is independent of the operation of the perimeter migration control system, the operation of the system does not increase the emissions of any contaminant from the Landfill "unit."

In summary, the County would like to continue operation of the perimeter migration control system as it is currently operated per the requirements of Ecology and Yakima County Health District. The County is of the opinion that NSR permitting is not required for the operation of this equipment and the County respectfully requests concurrence from YRCAA on this issue. Please respond at your earliest convenience and feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

Sincerely,



Wendy Mifflin
Solid Waste Manager